IN RECOGNITION OF "NATIONAL ALCOHOL AND DRUG ADDICTION RECOVERY MONTH"

WHEREAS, on behalf of the citizens of Augusta, I am pleased to join Hope House, Inc. in celebrating September 2003 as National Alcohol and Drug Addiction Recovery Month in Augusta; and

WHEREAS, acknowledging September 2003 offers those involved in substance abuse treatment an opportunity to educate the public, community organizations, public officials, and civic leaders about the effectiveness of treatment, both societal and financial; and

WHEREAS, substance abuse and co-occurring mental disorders and co-existing physical illnesses are major public health problems that affect millions of Americans of all ages, races, and ethnic backgrounds and in all communities, and have huge medical, societal, and economic costs; and

WHEREAS, people with co-occurring substance abuse and mental disorders can and do recover, and people with co-occurring substance abuse and mental disorders deserve access to the services they need to recover; and

WHEREAS, thousands of health care providers have dedicated their lives to the recovery process and to the education of the public about alcoholism, drug dependence, co-occurring disorders, and treatment issues; and

WHEREAS, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration's Center for Substance Abuse Treatment; the Office of National Drug Control Policy; and Hope House, Inc. invite all residents of Augusta to participate in National Alcohol and Drug Addiction Recovery Month.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Bob Young, Mayor of the City of Augusta, do hereby proclaim the month of September 2003 as "NATIONAL ALCOHOL AND DRUG ADDICTION RECOVERY MONTH" in Augusta, Georgia and encourage all citizens to support this year's theme, "Join the Voices for Recovery: Celebrating Health" by supporting men, women, and youth who are in drug and alcohol addiction treatment and recovery, and their families.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of Augusta, Georgia to be affixed this 25th day of September 2003.